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August 13, 1990

Honorable Glenda K. Doan
Judge of the Justice Court
Corcoran Judicial District
1001 Chittenden Avenue
Corcoran, CA 93212

Dear Judge Doan:

At its August 1990 meeting, the commission determined that you should be publicly reprimanded for the conduct set forth below.

1. In 1988, an acquaintance approached you privately and asked you to help obtain the release of a relative who had just been arrested for serious crimes of violence. Because he was under the age of 18, the defendant was within the exclusive jurisdiction of the superior court.

You then telephoned a superior court judge at home and asked him to release the defendant under supervision but without bail. You told him you knew the defendant's family and they were "good people." The judge declined, telling you the request was improper. The next day in court the judge disclosed this telephone call to the defendant and the prosecutor.

You also telephoned the Probation Department to request a deputy probation officer to recommend the defendant's release pending the hearing. The officer refused to do so. A day or two later, you encountered the officer in court and repeated your request, which was again refused.

These activities violated the Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 2B: "Judges should not lend the prestige of their office to advance the private interest of others. . ."

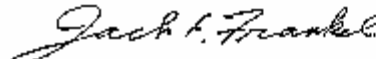
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2. On December 26, 1989, the commission sent you a letter requesting your comment on the charge that you tried to help the defendant gain his release. In a letter dated February 12, 1990, you stated that your acquaintance "asked Judge Doan whether the relative would be kept from going to college. Judge Doan simply agreed to check on the status of the case, and answer the question. . . Judge Doan made no other efforts on behalf of the defendant. . ."

This response was false.

In determining that a public reproof would be adequate discipline, the commission considered your ultimate recognition that your conduct was inappropriate, and your assurance that it would not be repeated.

Very truly yours,


JACK E. FRANKEL

JEF:bw